

Katie's Grant Proposal Rough Draft:

Action Assignment 1

Need: La Petite Academy is located in southern Wisconsin and serves approximately 80 students from birth to school age at this center. La Petite Academy's mission is to be a safe, secure, and comfortable environment that encourages a child's growth and development. The academy sets high standards and expectations for teachers and children. During the summer time, the center has field trips for the older classrooms but during the school year field trips get cut due to staffing issues. In general, the class is affected by the learning experiences confined into their classroom. Branching out into the community to explore and learn can be a great experience for young children.

Early childhood programs are challenged on a daily basis to provide care for the individuals within the program and help them grow into the future leaders of our world. According to the article *Leading Early Childhood Learning Communities* from National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), they discuss the importance of building connections and stepping up to reach beyond the classroom to strengthen learner's knowledge of the world around them. The Early Childhood News site features an article (Wardle, Ph.D.) about the importance of engaging students with their community and culture. Every student lives their life but where, what resources do they have available to assist them, and how communities function and thrive with support. The article suggests that one of the ways to connect the classroom with the community is going on field trips. Many early childhood associations and affiliations point out the importance of community presence inside and outside the classroom. NAEYC's article touches on the idea that the child's family is important as well because they are part of their first community, the home community, widen the subset of their community idea and embrace the world around them. NAEYC is also a firm believer that the families need to

be encouraged get involved with their child's education. One way for families to be involved would be to have them chaperone or visit their business. The La Petite Academy 4K class needs funding for a field trip to the Enchanted Valley Acres in Cross Plains, WI. This will provide the students with the connection to their community and their topic of study at the time.

Goals:

Goal 1- To improve student's knowledge of their community and how plants effect their lives. (Thank you video of the students explain what they learned.)

Goal 2- To increase student's application of basic skills (problem solving, communication (asking questions/answering them), and collaborating with their classmates.)

Objective:

To raise \$130 for admission to the Enchanted Valley Acres to explore their farm and other educational activities for all 4K students and at least four chaperones. To raise \$20 (which is an estimate for the cost of gas for the trip on a center provided bus.) A total of \$150 to be raise for the Pumpkin Patch Field Trip.

Activities and Outcomes:

Students will learn about pumpkins and other topics related to this pumpkin patch.

Students will complete activities about the topic. Students will visit the patch during the school day. After the visit the students will complete a video about what they learned and thank the family for the experience at the patch.

Timetable- First and Second Week of October: Learn about pumpkins and these types of farms.

Second Week of October Thursday or Friday: Field Trip to Enchanted Valley Acres

Third Week of October: Create a video of the child's experiences and what they learned.

Also the video will thank the farm.

References:

NAESP's Leading Early Childhood Learning Communities: What Should Principals Know and Be Able To Do? (n.d.). Retrieved September 4, 2015.

http://web.naesp.org/misc/ECLC_ExecSum.pdf

NAEYC's The Role of Relationships Early Childhood Education: Increasing Family Engagement in Early Childhood Programs (Strengthening Families in Illinois). (2012, November 1). Retrieved September 4, 2015, from

http://www.strengtheningfamiliesillinois.org/mirror/downloads/NAEYC_Article_1112.pdf

Wardle, Ph.D, F. (n.d.). Earlychildhood NEWS - Article Reading Center. Retrieved September 4, 2015, from

http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/earlychildhood/article_view.aspx?ArticleID=220

Action Assignment 2

Evaluation:

I will evaluate my data by using a family survey, a knowledge learned video, and rubric.

The survey would be completed by the parent after the field trip on the level of importance and if they would like to see it done again in the future. The children will participate in a video expressing what they have learned from the lesson and about the pumpkin farm. This video will be evaluated using a rubric. This video would act as a thank you to the donors and the pumpkin patch itself. The information gathered from the family's survey to see if it should be done again. This will drive the next grant submission or possibly families providing the funding for the trip. Each year depends on the number students and the level of need for each family. Submitting for the next year depends also on budget. If the funds are available through the district then I can submit that to them or at the end of the year ask that the field trip be a must to be funded.

Family Survey

(Via survey monkey or a paper copy)

Did your child enjoy the trip to the pumpkin farm? Yes or No

Were you a chaperone? Yes or No

A. Did you think the field trip was appropriate for the age group? Yes or No

B. Would you take your child back for another visit? Yes or No

What did your child learn?

Would you recommend the trip for another class to go on? Yes or No

Would you mind spending \$5-\$10 to have LP take your child to the pumpkin farm?
Yes or No

What would you like to see if anything differently?

Rubric

Goal 1: Students will learn the life cycle of pumpkins.

Activity Pumpkin Life Cycle Steps-

Content

- 0- Doesn't participate
- 1- Follows directions
- 2- Shows effort in trying to put the cycle together by themselves but unsuccessful
- 3- With little direction completes activity
- 4- Completes activity with no assistance

Fine motor

- 0- Doesn't participate
- 1- Tries to manipulate or gives up
- 2- Shows need for improvement and needs some assistance
- 3- Need improvement but completes without assistance
- 4- Completes activity with no assistance

Following directions

- 0- Doesn't participate
- 1- Needs direction during every section of the activity
- 2- Can follow 1-2 step directions might need an in-depth visual or verbal directions
- 3- Can follow 3-4 step directions
- 4- Can complete without directions

Goal 2: Students will learn about the pumpkin farm.

Large Group Activity / Video Experience Discussion

Content

- 0- Doesn't participate in large group
- 1- Follows directions but doesn't giving any input
- 2- Shows effort in trying provide answers but is unsuccessful
- 3- Offers several suggestions and input for activity that are successful
- 4- Provide imaginative answers that are appropriate to topic and develops a higher level of thinking

Following directions

- 0- Doesn't participate
- 1- Needs direction during every section of the activity
- 2- Can follow 1-2 step directions might need an in-depth visual or verbal directions
- 3- Can follow 3-4 step directions
- 4- Can complete without directions

Goal 3: Students will explore local businesses and understand how the pumpkin farm works as well as its place in the community.

Field Trip and Discussion

Content

- 0- Doesn't participate
- 1- Follows directions
- 2- Shows effort in discussing topic but unsuccessful
- 3- Discusses topic describing their experiences
- 4- Discusses topic describing their experiences and making connections to the classroom and world

Dissemination:

My students will show their knowledge of pumpkins, pumpkin farms, gardening, and the community through a video. They will connect with their community by going to the pumpkin patch to learn what they do, how they live, and how it connects with their community. This video will be shared as a thank you to the pumpkin patch and the supporters on the Adopt A Classroom site. It will be created after the field trip. It will have a clips of individual children and a large carpet activity where we will discuss our memories. With the signatures of the parents I will send the video to the families, pumpkin patch and donors.

Action Assignment 3

Budget:

The budget for the field trip to Enchanted Valley Acres will be approximately \$150. The only expenses for the trip would be the admission into the farm which will be approximately \$130 for all the 4K students and at least four chaperones. It is \$6 per person. I have 16 students enrolled and would leave a little money left over to have three to four adults to chaperone. Lastly the final expense would be gas for the bus we would take to get them to the patch. After calculated the round trip mileage and the price of gas, we would need \$20 for it. Bus is provide by center so no extra prices for the vehicle itself. We will be seeking \$150 to take our 4k students on a field trip.

Item	Price	Quantity	Total
Admission to EVA	\$6/person plus tax	20	\$130
Gas expenses	\$20 (approximately 22 miles round trip)	1	\$20
		Total Budget for Project:	\$150

Sustainability:

My future plan for this trip is to either resubmit it every year through the Adopt A Classroom website or budget the trip in to my district funds. The surveys and feedback from families will support the reasoning behind the expenditure as well as it being sustainable for future years. Also, the company that I work for has private budgeting for things to promote community involvement but it is more difficult to get the money than going through the Adopt A Classroom website or the district.

Action Assignment 4



Date: (Date of Submission, Spring)

Grantor: AdoptAClassroom.org

Dear Adopt A Classroom partners and vendors,

I teach 4k at La Petite Academy in Middleton, WI and I am applying for a small grant to cover an educational field trip through your website. I am requesting \$150 from the donors on your website, which fits for this proposal called Connecting with the Community – Educational Field Trip. The money will be used to purchase entrance tickets into the pumpkin patch as well as gas to get back and forth. Through this activity students will improve their knowledge of their community and increase their application of basic skills (problem solving, communication, asking/answering questions, and collaborating with their fellow classmates.).

La Petite Academy is located in southern Wisconsin and serves approximately 80 students from birth to school age at this center. La Petite Academy has a total of 13 sites through the Madison area. We are part of Learning Care Group, which has five sub groups associated with it. They are La Petite Academy, Tutor Time Child Care / Learning Centers, The Children's Courtyard, Montessori unlimited, and Childtime Learning Centers. The Learning Care Group is committed to quality education in the early childhood and teenage years. La Petite Academy's mission is to be a safe, secure, and comfortable environment that encourages a child's growth and development. The academy sets high standards and expectations for teachers and children. My goal is promote community engagement and increase the students' knowledge of farm life through creating a video of what the students' have learned and family survey will reflect the growth and citizenship. By experience this field trip to gain knowledge and experience about the community that will provide the students the opportunity to grow and develop with the support of Adopt A Classroom site.

I thank the Adopt A Classroom site for connecting teachers and other educational professionals to well needed resources to support and improve learning and the education field.

If you need any other additional information or would like to speak with me in person, please feel free to contact me at (920) 123-0000. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Katherine Sullivan

Project Abstract

Applicant: Katie Sullivan, 4K Teacher at La Petite Academy

Project Title: Connecting with the Community – Educational Field Trip

Funding Requested: \$150

Project Description: It is the goal of this grant initiative to increase their application of basic skills (problem solving, communication, asking/answering questions, and collaborating with their fellow classmates.) and improve their knowledge of their community.

Students will learn about pumpkins and other topics related to this pumpkin patch. They will complete activities on the topic. Also, students will visit the patch during the school day. After their visit the students will complete a video about what they learned and thank the family that owns the pumpkin patch through their field trip.

To determine the effects of activity on students' academic achievement and performance and formative evaluation will be conducted through family surveys, classroom participation using a rubric, field trip participation using a rubric, and knowledge video.

The students will discuss their new knowledge as they share their final product with their classmates, families supporters, and the pumpkin patch itself. Students will be acquiring 21st century skills in collaborating with others; communication between students, staff and community; and problem solving skills that are all necessary in the real world.

Project Length: Spring 2016

People that will benefit from this project: Middleton-Cross Plains Area School

District students and parents, La Petite students, Middleton Community